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CLAIMS:

1. A conjugate comprising a support material linked to oligomers or polymers of a saccharide, which linking is via urea linkages between the saccharide moieties and the support material, and wherein the oligomers or polymers are also cross-linked via urea linkages.
2. A conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the saccharide is glucose.
3. A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the oligomer or polymer of glucose is a cyclodextrin.
4. A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the oligomer or polymer of glucose is β -cyclodextrin.
5. A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the urea linkages are to the 6-carbon atoms of the glucose moieties.
- 15 6. A conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the oligomer or polymer of a saccharide is perfunctionalized by replacement of all free hydroxyl groups by a group selected from the group consisting of alkoxy groups, aryloxy groups, acyloxy groups and carbamoyloxy groups.
- 20 7. A conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the support material is selected from the group consisting of silica gel, Al_2O_3 , TiO_2 , ZrO_2 and, synthetic porous functional organic polymers bearing free $-\text{NH}_2$ moieties and synthetic porous functional organic polymers bearing free N_3 moieties.
- 25 8. A conjugate according to claim 7, wherein the support material is silica gel.
9. A process for preparing a conjugate according to claim 1, which process comprises:

(a) reacting an oligomer or polymer of a saccharide bearing a plurality of azide groups with an amine, a phosphine and CO₂, the amine being on the surface of a support material; or

- 5 (b) reacting an oligomer or polymer of a saccharide bearing a plurality of azide groups with an amine, a phosphine and CO₂, wherein the amine is an alkenylamine, subsequently hydrosilylating the alkenyl moiety of the product with a hydrosilylating agent that bears one or more readily
10 hydrolysable groups on the silicon atom and thereafter reacting with a support member; or

- 15 (c) reacting an oligomer or polymer of a saccharide bearing a plurality of azide groups with an amine, a phosphine and CO₂, wherein the amine is present in a molecule that bears a silicon atom bearing at least one readily hydrolysable group,
and thereafter reacting with a support member; or

- 20 (d) reacting an oligomer or polymer of a saccharide bearing a plurality of amine groups with an azide, a phosphine and CO₂, the azide being on the surface of a support material;
or

- 25 (e) reacting an oligomer or polymer of a saccharide bearing a plurality of amine groups with an azide, a phosphine and CO₂, wherein the azide is an alkenylazide, subsequently hydrosilylating the alkenyl moiety of the product with a hydrosilylating agent that bears one or more readily
hydrolysable groups on the silicon atom and thereafter reacting with a support member; or

- 30 (f) reacting an oligomer or polymer of a saccharide bearing a plurality of amine groups with an azide, a phosphine and CO₂, wherein the azide is present in a molecule that bears a silicon atom bearing at least one readily hydrolysable group,
and thereafter reacting with a support member.

10. A process according to claim 9, wherein the saccharide is glucose.

11. A process according to claim 9, wherein the oligomer or polymer of a saccharide is a cyclodextrin.

5 12. A process according to claim 9, wherein the oligomer or polymer of a saccharide is β -cyclodextrin.

13. A process according to claim 9, wherein the oligomer or polymer of a saccharide is a 6^A , 6^B , 6^C , 6^D , 6^E , 6^F , 6^G -heptakisazido- 6^A , 6^B , 6^C , 6^D , 6^E , 6^F , 6^G -heptakisdeoxy- β -cyclodextrin.

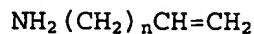
14. A process according to claim 13, wherein the oligomer or polymer of a saccharide is 6^A , 6^B , 6^C , 6^D , 6^E , 6^F , 6^G -heptakisazido- 6^A , 6^B , 6^C , 6^D , 6^E , 6^F , 6^G -heptakisdeoxy- 2^A , 2^B , 2^C , 2^D , 2^E , 2^F , 2^G -O-phenylcarbamoylated- 3^A , 3^B , 3^C , 3^D , 3^E , 3^F , 3^G -heptakis-O-phenylcarbamoylated- β -cyclodextrin.

15. A process according to claim 10, wherein the oligomer or polymer of a saccharide is perfunctionalized by replacement of all free hydroxyl groups by a functional group selected from the group consisting of alkoxy groups, aryloxy groups, acyloxy groups and carbamoyloxy groups.

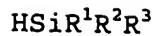
16. A process according to claim 10, wherein the amine is a primary amine.

17. A process according to claim 10, wherein the phosphine is triphenylphosphine.

25 18. A process according to claim 9(b), wherein the amine is a compound of formula

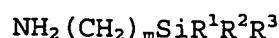


wherein n is a number in the range 2 to 20, and the hydrosilylating agent is a compound of formula



wherein each R¹, R² and R³ is an alkyl group or an alkoxy group of up to 6 carbon atoms, an aryl or aryloxy wherein the aryl moiety is a phenyl or α- or β-naphthyloxy group or a halogen atom provided that at least one of R¹, R² and R³ is a readily hydrolysable group.

19. A process according to claim 9(c), wherein the amine is a compound of formula



10 wherein m is a number from 1 to about 20 and each R¹, R² and R³ is an alkyl group or an alkoxy group of up to 6 carbon atoms, an aryl or aryloxy wherein the aryl moiety is a phenyl or α- or β-naphthyloxy group or a halogen atom provided that at least one of R¹, R² and R³ is a readily hydrolysable group.

15 20. A process according to claim 9, wherein the support material is selected from the group consisting of silica gel, Al₂O₃, TiO₂, ZrO₂ and synthetic porous functional organic polymers bearing free -NH₂ and -N₃ moieties.

21. A process according to claim 20, wherein the support 20 material is silica gel.

22. A chromatographic process wherein a conjugate according to claim 1 is used as stationary phase.

23. A process according to claim 22, wherein the conjugate is used as a chiral stationary phase in enantiomeric 25 separation or enantiomeric analysis.

24. A process according to claim 22, wherein a liquid mobile phase is used that contains 95% or more of water.